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1608/1544.

A
DETECTION
OF THE
Sophistry and Falsities
Of the PAMPHLET, Entitul'd, the
Secret History
OF THE
WHITE STAFF.

CONTAINING
An Enquiry into the STAFF's Con-
duct in the late *Management*, parti-
cularly with Respect to the *Protestant*
Succession.

*The Time we hope is now come, &c. when Ministers
shall no more cover their Crimes, by sheltering
themselves under the Name of their Sovereign;
When Truth and Integrity shall be inseparable from
great Offices, and when, to the Terror of Offen-
ders, Justice shall take Place. 'Tis in Compassion
to the Innocent, that the Laws ordain the Guilty
to be punish'd.*
Edinburgh Address to
his Majesty.

The Eighth Edition.

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DETROIT
JANUARY 1848
JAMES H. HARRIS
OF THE
SECRETARY
OF THE
WHITE STONE
TOWNSHIP
OF THE
COUNTY OF
MICHIGAN





A Detection of the
Secret History
 OF THE
White Staff, &c.



So great is our Happiness in seeing the *Protestant Succession* at last take effect, and one of the greatest Princes that ever reign'd over a People seated on the *British Throne*, surrounded by a *Royal Family* as illustrious for their *Merit* as their *Rank*, and secur'd to us by their number, that one would almost forget the *Destruction* with which the late wicked Managers threatned us for the *Safety* which we enjoy under the

present Administration. It has always been the distinguishing Character of the now Prevailing Party, that they love *Mercy* as well as *Liberty*; that they abhor *Cruelty* and *Persecution*; that they are never for spilling of Blood, but that of their *Po-pish* and *French* Enemies, and in fair Battel; but then there is something in the Proceedings of those hated *Managers*, something so very enormous and crying, it is not consistent with common *Policy* and common *Justice* to forgive and forget them, as if they had been guilty of common Errors only, such as Human Frailty exposed them to, and Human Compassion should excuse: For, no doubt, all the Nations of *Europe* have their Eyes upon us to see what we will do with a set of Men who were so near undoing both our selves and them.

The poor deluded Multitude, whom they first blinded with a sham Pretence of the *Church*, and the starving thoughtless Fry who fell in with them for *Bread*, are Objects of Pity, and not of Resentment. The best way to reclaim the former, will be by making them thoroughly sensible of their Felicity in the late happy Change, and the latter will be but too much punish'd by being oblig'd to give up the Advantages they made of their base Compliance to such as preserv'd their Integrity in those the very worst of Times.

As for the *Managers* themselves, they who broke the *Treaty* of the *Grand Alliance*,
by



by sending *P——r* and *M——r* to *France*, to beg a *Peace* in a most Clandestine Manner, who receiv'd a Minister from thence without communicating a Word of it to any of the *Allies*, till the shameful Conditions of a Treaty were agreed to, who dissolv'd the *Confederacy*, who drew off the *British* Forces and Auxiliaries from the Confederate Army, and expos'd them to the Slaughter and Rout at *Denain*, who bully'd the *Dutch* into an Assent to what they knew and declar'd to be against their *Interest*, and even *Security*, who abandon'd the Emperor, and left the *Catalans* to be butcher'd by the *French*, notwithstanding their *Neutrality*, who gave up *Trade* to *Spain* and *France*, who obtain'd *Elections* by Tumults, Violence, and the most notorious Bribery, who made *Peers* by *Dozens*, who procur'd at one time 500000 *l.* to be given them just before the *Dissolution* of a *Parliament*, under pretence of paying the *Crown Debts*, and distributed that Money among themselves and their Creatures, while the *Crown Creditors* were pop'd off with *Tin Tallies* at 30 *per Cent.* Loss, who insulted all the Lovers of their Country, and the Enemies of *France* in both Houses of *Parliament*, who gave Seats in the House of *Peers* to *Scots L——ds*, known to be in the *Pretender's Interest*, and at the Publick Expence got others in the same Interests Votes in the *House of Commons*, such as *Aldworth* of *Windsor*, a Person bred up at *St. Omers*, a Servant to the *Chevalier de*
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St. George, a profess'd Zealot for his Service, protected in his Election by the C. of the Castle, those who affronted the Minister of *Hanover* for presenting his Master's excellent *Memorial*, prophetick of all their wicked Designs, and our future Evils; who refus'd to admit his Highness the Duke of *Cambridge* to his Seat in Parliament, and sent away another of the Ministers of *Hanover* for demanding his Writ; who modell'd the Fleet and Army, putting out Officers of known Zeal to the Protestant Succession, and putting in others of as known Hatred to it; To instance among others, *Coll. Sidney*, who was remov'd to make room for *Coll. O——* who threatned his now Royal Highness, the Prince of *Wales*, with what should be done to him if he came hither, too horrid to be repeated, those who promoted *Sachavere* an Incendiary condemn'd by Law, to one of the most Beneficial and Populous Parishes in *England*, made *A——* a Bishop, *Swift* a Dean, and *Higgins* a Dignitary of the Church; who put Men of no Fortunes nor Morals into the Commissions of the Lieutenancy, and the Peace, purely for their readiness to comply with all their Ruinous Schemes, such as *C——n* of *Westminster*, *J——l* of *Chelsea*, *W——d* of *E——g*, with fifty more that might be nam'd within 20 Miles of *London*, and hundreds in other Parts of *England*; who employ'd a Crew of the most lying scandalous Scriblers, as *Oldisworth*, *Desoe*, *Swift*, *Manley*, &c. to vilify the Duke

Duke of *M*——, and the wisest and most glorious Administration that ever this Kingdom was bless'd with: As for those Men, I say, with whose Crimes one might fill Volumes, if the subject was not too dismal to be remembred in this Time of Joy, sure there is not a good *Briton* but will rejoyce to see the Vigour of the Law exert it self, and Justice done to an injur'd Nation and Confederacy.

But it is not yet a Time to talk of these Things, nor are we the Judges. The *Representative* will doubtless examine strictly into the Treasonable Projects carry'd on against our *Liberty* and *Religion*; for when can they assert them better, and punish the Betrayers of them, than now we are assur'd we have a King whose *Heart* is entirely English, in the genuine Sense of the Phrase? I did not question but the Method the *Criminals* would take to avoid the Reward due to their *Crimes*, would be that of *Coiners*, *Felons*, and other such Malefactors, that the Arch Offender would endeavour to get off by impeaching his Accomplices, would turn Evidence, and fasten their Necks in the Halter to save his own.

Accordingly five or six Days ago out comes the *Secret History of the White Staff*, written by *Desae*, as is to be seen by his abundance of Words, his false Thoughts, and false *English*. The Man who set him to work paid him a Pension during all the time of his *Management*, tho he had help'd
to

to let him in the Pillory seven or eight Years before. He gave him for this Work, so necessary to his own Preservation, as many Parcels and Hints of Memoirs, as he thought convenient, which the honest Author of the *Shorrest Way with the Dissenters*, of *Jure Divino*, of the *Review*, of *What if the Pretender should come?* of the *Mercator*, and an hundred other such *Scriptions*, was hir'd to put into his sweet way of Writing, to amuse People, if he could not convince them.

I wish we had had a little more of the *Secret History of the Staff*, from his Chamber in the Temple to his Palace in *Tork-Buildings*, and that he would have made use of the Leisure he's like to have, for a while, at least, to inform us by what fair and pious Practices he rose from being Chairman to the *Guinea Trade* to that *Staff*, which made him as Important as if he had indeed been of the Race of two *Earls*.

I have often heard it said by Persons whom the *Staff* knows very well cou'd tell as much of him as any body, that he is, by no means, the *Conjurer* he pretends to be; that his Talent rather consists in daring to do, than knowing to do, that strip him of his Diffimulation and Chicanry his Merit is left naked, and that indeed he has as little *Capacity* as he has *Application* in Business; yet we shall see presently what a wonder he makes of himself; such a Politician, that
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if you'll take his own word for it, the *Matchiavel* of the *Apennine* was a Driv'ler to him of *Penmenmaur*.

Should not this worthy Gentleman have been so just to himself and his Readers, as to have represented in what a happy Condition Affairs were when he set about embroiling them by his Cabals and mean Arts? Shou'd he not have told us, that the *War* we were carrying on Abroad for the *Security* of our *Religion* and *Liberties* was drawing to a *glorious Issue*; that the *Exorbitant Power* of *France* might have been so reduc'd in one Campaign more, that the *Grand Lewis* wou'd not have thought himself safe in that Palace where he now shuffles with and insults us? Should he not have said that the Credit of the Nation was then in a much more flourishing Condition than it has been since the *Peace* he sent to *France* for; that our *Reputation* Abroad was rais'd as much above all other Nations as it has *sunk* since he had any thing to do with it: That we had a perfect good Understanding with our *Allies*, were trusted by them, and could trust one another, and that all at once by his Hellish Machinations, we fell from this State of *Glory* and *Envy* to one of *Infamy* and *Contempt*, having nothing on our side but the Power we had given to *France*, ready at all Times to joyn with us in destroying our Friends, to have the easier Work in our own Destruction.

If he had begun his *Secret History* with this T ulh, something might have been expected from his Repentance and Remorse ; but to go about to impose still upon our Memories and Senses, and to think we had in our *Fright* forgot what a Condition he found us in, and in what a Condition he left us, is a sad sign of his being Incurable, and as insensible of his own Danger as he was of ours. But leaving all the success of our Affairs, Foreign and Domestic, to the Turn given to it, by his *Bri-gues, Scheme* and *Conduct*, let us a little more particularly examine his late *Memorial*.

And here I cannot help observing how he, or his Scribe, stumbles at the Threshold ; how they discover their Stupidity and Ignorance, in telling the World out of his Histories of one Cardinal Minister, employ'd by a Queen, who supplanted his Benefactress, and remov'd her from the Regency, and an Archbishop who did the like by a King. Is not this enough to put one in mind, how for Two or Three Years all Approach to Her late Majesty was intercepted by this hopeful Prime Minister of Her's. That strange *Speeches* were deliver'd to the People as various as the Seasons which produc'd them, the Product of his *Difficulties* and *Distress*, without any Regard had to the Character of the *Speaker*, and one cannot doubt but his own Accomplices will tell us the opposition he met with from them was to de-
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liver their Mistress from the Ascendency he usurp'd over her, and restore her to the Exercise of a *Sovereignty*, which he had assum'd in every thing but the Title; that, in effect, she was as much remov'd from the *Regency* and *Administration* as ever *Mary de Medicis* was. What they themselves would have done with her had they gain'd their Ends, one may imagine by their great Moderation and Self-denial, in all the Parts of their Management. I will not pretend to vindicate his Associates, I am very well satisfy'd they are all alike. Men who cou'd have the Conscience to thrust themselves, the worst of Men, into the Places of the very best, who cou'd betray the Cause of *Liberty* for their private Advantages, and sacrifice *Religion* to their *Passions*; such Men were capable of doing any thing. I must confess amidst all that we suffer'd and fear'd from them, I was often in Admiration that it was no worse with us, and puzzled to think where Three such Hands cou'd be pick'd out again, had they not been sufficient without them to have ruin'd us and all Mankind.

'Twas a very great mistake for the Old Ministry to prosecute the worthless *Sacheverel*, to use his own Expression; but yet the Defending of this Man of no *Worth*, and the Sermon he preach'd, tho' he owns it gave Offence, was all the Merit of himself and his Party, and that too when they themselves, as he says, did not in the least mean the

Church by it; for he informs us the *Prosecutors* of *Sacheverel* were all *Members* of it. But notwithstanding what was pretended of the *Church's Danger*, notwithstanding the Solemn Addresses of *Sacheverel* and other such Clergymen to Heaven in behalf of this *Distress'd Church*, the *Staff* tells you frankly, they had her not in their Hearts, but that use was made of the *Prosecution* of the *Doctor* to turn out *Ministers*, who were ruining the *French*, to bring in those that were so near ruining our selves. And this did the *Tories* do thro' their great Forefight. The *Enemies* of the *Ministers*, says he, seeing further than others, were the first that laid the Bate to bring it up to an *Impeachment*, by which means they gain'd the Point they had long driven at, viz. To embroil the *Ministry* with the *Church*, at which Gap they broke in upon the *Ministry*, and supplanted them with the *Queen*.

Here this dextrous Cunning Politician opening his Heart with as much Simplicity as his Brother could have done, assures us, that the *Faction* trick'd us out of all the Blessings which would have attended a *Glorious Peace*, purely by using the Name of the *Church*. He says when the *Ministry* brought the *Doctor's* Affair into the House of Commons, all they intended was to call this *Worthless Man* before them, to keep him a little in *Custody*, give him a *Reprimand*, and *Censure* his *Sermon*. But the *Tories* truly egg'd the Matter on further than the *Whigs* intended, and are not these

these *Tories* accountable to the Church for prostituting Her Sacred Name to their Avarice and Ambition? *Sacheverel's* Impeachment, says *Staff* himself, was their Bate, the Church was the Tool these Tory *Managers* wrought with, and can she ever forget the Indignity they put upon her by abusing her Name, so far as to endanger her very Being?

Staff having put himself at the Head of the Faction, and call'd himself in many Pages the *Prime Minister*, pleads guilty to the general Charge, and in effect acknowledges that he himself bred up in a Fanatick *Conventicle* and *Seminary*, with his noble Partner the *Purse*, did wholly, by virtue of the Church's Name, arrive at a Power never heard of in *England* before: Where does our *Law* or *History* make mention of a *Prime Minister*? But, it seems, as much as he deals in *Antiquity* his *Politicks* are entirely *Modern*, and he borrows not his *Models* from either *Greeks* or *Romans*. The *French* did his Business, and he would have done ours.

If you'll give Credit to him, he did not intend to remove any more of the old *Ministers* than was of absolute necessity, nor dissolve the *Parliament*, nor put an end to the War. This he vows and protests never enter'd into his Mind, so that, it seems, it was not because the old Ministers were *Peculators* and *Delighters* in War, nor because it was a *Consumptive Land War*, nor because the *Parliament* condemn'd a *Clergy-Man*,
that

that the *old Ministers* were remov'd, the *War* ended, and the *Parliament* dissolv'd, but because the Prime Minister and his *Seconds*, as he calls them, perceiv'd there was a *Design* to overthrow them.

Thus it appears, that they were no more concern'd for the *Nation* in *Temporal* Matters than for the *Church* in *Spirituals*. Is this the subtle, the crafty, the *double fac'd Janus*? Do such Truths as these come out of the *Staff's* Mouth? Truths as Simple as those that come out of the Mouths of Babes and Sucklings. Truths which the Whigs have said a Thousand and a Thousand Times, and been bely'd and bedevill'd for it by the *Examiner*, his Brother of *St. Patrick*, and their Brethren. It is plain then, that whatever was said, whatever shall be said by such Men as these of the Church, and the *Danger* she was in, was and will be only said to make way for two or three such *Managers* as this *Prime* and his *Seconds* were. What good he would have done for us, we may well imagine, by the Good he says they were doing us.

Tho' every word he tells us of his being in Her Majesty's Favour is an Affront to Her Memory, yet we shall leave it to himself to make it out, and excuse it as well as he can, and not trouble our selys whether it be true or false, only enquire into his Merit, to see how worthy he was of it.

Staff

Staff enjoying his Hireling to speak of himself, tells us with equal Modesty and Truth, that the Old Ministry knew they were not able to Supplant him in the Favour of the Queen, or prevent Her Majesty giving him distinguishing Marks of that Favour even before their Faces: Yet knowing all this, they were so impolitick as to dispise him; which indeed is so very true, that a Noble Lord of that Ministry would never hear of his being trusted, and when his fair Speeches and Pretences, which he never wanted, had influenc'd some others to have more favourable Thoughts of him, he has told them, *You may think what you will of him, he's nothing but a Jugler, and there never was a Jugler but he was a ———* This great Man, as renown'd for Probity as his Wisdom and Learning, would never consent to be in any Management with him, and how rightly his Lordship judg'd the History of the last Four Years, does but too evidently demonstrate. However, he gives us to understand the Old Ministry were very much out in their Politicks not to take him in; and speaking of himself, for whatever *Deſoe* says of him is doubtless his own, has these fine and delicate Expressions: *The Staff was now given into my Hand, which, as was mention'd before, had been treated with so much impolitick Contempt, and the Prime Minister put upon my Head; which, tho' they always sound capable, yet they never suffer'd themselves to think I could have*
gotten

gotten the start of them, as they found I had; and not content with this he brags that tho' he wes turn'd out of a former Place with all the Marks of Resentment imaginable, even to Indecency, yet he govern'd all behind the Curtain, and made the Q ——— n do what he would have her. Nothing, says he, or Defoe for him, could prevent her Majesty from taking her Measures by my Council, in Contradiction to the Steps which they had often taken. Nay, the whole set of the old Ministry, as Contemptibly as they us'd him, were as much govern'd by him in his Disgrace, as the Q ——— her self, squaring their Measures too by his Schemes, that they might seem to act from themselves what they should probably be obliged to do, after they had in vain oppos'd it.

A very likely Story this, or that her Majesty would give Ear to him in private, after what she was pleas'd to tell the Lords in publick; for when the House of Lords made an Address to her Majesty, upon the Discovery of Gregg's Treason, setting forth the Mismanagements in the Secretary's Office on that occasion, her Majesty was graciously pleas'd to Answer, ' That this very Man s
' Example would be a sufficient warning to
' keep all Matters of Importance secret,
' and to employ such only as there should
' be Grounds to believe would be faith-
' ful.

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Is it likely, that after such *Sufficient* warning, he should be admitted into the deepest *Artana's* of State, and trusted with things which the Ministry themselves were not trusted with? But if such Trust was put in him, after such a *Warning*, ought he to be the Discoverer of the Secret? and should it not have been bury'd for ever with the Royal Ashes, which cannot be profan'd without the greatest Impiety?

We all remember what a Bustle was made upon *Guiscard's* Attempt, and how the *Examiner*, whom the *Staff* let to work, and paid him his Wages of Two or Three Hundred a Year, charg'd the whole Body of the *Whigs* with that Design to assassinate his Master, though the *Staff* himself, who then employ'd him, now freely owns, that not only the Body of the *Whigs*, but the old *Ministers* themselves were pleas'd to see him escape such a *Tragical* Attempt.

Good God! and knowing all this, could he suffer his Scriblers as *Abel* and the *Examiner* to give out that the old Ministry and the *Whigs* let *Guiscard* to work? The *Examiner* cry'd out, It is worth observing what a Concurrence there is between some Persons once in Power, and a French *Papist*, and to confirm this, he tells one of the greatest Lies that Man was ever convicted of, that *Guiscard* was invited over by that ministry: For the Truth

is, and the *Staff* knew it, the Court of *Vienna* sent him hither without our Court's knowing any thing of the Matter, till he came.

This not being to my present Purpose, I shall say no more of it, only observe, that the Man who will hire a Libeller to say what he knows to be false, not only of particular Men, but of whole Bodies of Men, must have a Conscience capable of every thing, and we ought not to be surpriz'd at any of his Male-Practices, or doubt the Truth of the most Incredible.

I shall but touch upon his Triumphs over the *Displaced Party*. What he imputes to his Management, centers all in that one Step of his, the *Twelve Lords*, whom he compliments upon their Creation, by telling them, *That his own Friends blam'd him for making them.* And *Abel* was so open hearted as to declare they were made purely to hinder a Sight, for which some People, as he said, had taken their Places to see the great *Staff* sent to the *Tower*,

Now though it does not belong to me to say for what or how they were made; yet since *Staff* owns he was driven to it by *Exigency*, I cannot help thinking *Abel* was more in the Secret than one could imagine they would have suffer'd him to be.

Is not this Declaration therefore an unpardonable Affront on their Twelve Lordships to accept of Seats from a Man who was blam'd by their own Party for giving them to them? Must they not be as much his *Tools* as he makes the *Church* to be? And what an Honour does he to them and their Posterity, by saying, that nothing in the World could have excus'd the making 'em *Lords*, but the Necessity the *Staff* lay under to save himself.

It may perhaps be thought I misquote or misrepresent *Staff's* Historian in this Affair: Let the Reader judge for himself how these Dozen of Peers are treated by their Maker, pag 12. *These unhappy Exigencies drove both Parties to do things which their own Friends blame them for, and which themselves acknowledge nothing but such a Necessity could have oblig'd them, such as making Twelve Lords, &c.*

The *Staff* has here also a Flirt at the *Occasional Bill*, which he voted for then, and condemns now. A rare Instance of the Sincerity of his Actions. As for those that brought in the *Occasional Bill*, it is known to every one, that they always distinguish'd themselves by their Zeal to the Establish'd Church, and were equally Enemies to *Fanaticism* and *Persecution*. The same Hands doing formerly out of *Christian* Charity, by promoting the *Toleration* and *Comprehension*, what they

did lately out of *Christian Zeal* by preventing *Hypocrisy*; But if he will needs charge the *Whigs* with the *Occasional Bill*, will he accept of their Repentance for their Readiness to make Restitution, on Condition they accept of his upon the same Terms?

I beg the Readers leave to present him here with a Speech that *Dan. Defoe* makes for the *Staff* upon his Triumph, by virtue of the Major Vote of the Dozen aforesaid, a cunning Trick that; and such as no *Prime* ever did, or ever will think of again.

Daniel introduces the *Staff* haranguing the People in the following Terms, Pag. 14. & 15.

“ However, I kept my Station, my
 “ Policy, and Management, as Prime
 “ Minister, defeated all the Attempts
 “ which the displaced Party had made,
 “ or saw room to make, to break in
 “ upon me. In every Battel I had the
 “ Victory; and albeit they never fail’d
 “ to renew the Assault, yet they found
 “ me so well fortify’d in every Part,
 “ that many began to see their Mistake,
 “ and to own they had better have accom-
 “ modated things at first, that they never
 “ thought I could have maintained my
 “ self in such a manner as they found,
 “ and that no Head but mine could
 “ have

“ have extricated itself out of so many
“ Labyrinths.

The manner of this Head of his so extricating itself, was, as he tells us, by putting the Coronet on Twelve Heads at once; and is it so strange that this was never thought of, neither by *Buckingham*, by *Strafford*, by *Clarendon*, by *Danby*, by *Jefferies*, and none of the glorious *Primas* his Predecessors? Indeed it did never enter into their Noddles, and even *Strafford* himself, who might have sav'd his own Head by it, did never venture to extricate it in such a manner. What a Miracle of a Man this was! See the *Letter to Sir Miles Wharton concerning Occasional Peers*, printed by itself, and in the Paper call'd the *Reader*, Number 6 and you will find whether it was possible for any *English Man*, but himself, to think of such a manner of extricating a Head. The danger the Destruction of it to the Constitution is there amply set forth, and the full Merit of the *Staff*, on occasion of this Victory, set in a true Light, which gives a dreadful Turn to his Triumph.

One wou'd have hop'd to have had a word or two in his behalf, on account of the *Peace*; but that's sunk as a Trifle not worth mentioning, tho' our Trade and Safety were sinking with it; and the first Thing he makes an Excuse for Abroad is, for abandoning the *Catalans*. In answer to which,

which, we are told, *the most pressing Instances were made for them* ; but when were they made? Why truly when we had done fighting for them ; when we had left the Confederates, turn'd the Ballance to the side of *France*, and the *Managers* knew full well that both *Philip* and *Lewis* look'd on their *Instances* as *Grimace* ; they having put it out of their Power to make them effectual ; and it is more than probable had given up themselves to *France* so entirely in the first Steps of their Treaty, that she knew it was in her Power to ruin them if they would not suffer Her to ruin the *Catalans*, and all the rest of the Confederates, of which our own Ruin would be the sure and quick Consequence.

Let the Reader run over the Letters from the *Government* and *Military Arm* of *Catalonia* upon the Submission of that Province to the Confederate Powers, and see whether they expected nothing from us *but the Privileges they enjoy'd under Charles II.* The *French*, as much as they are for Tyranny, always promis'd them an Enlargement, as well as Security of their Privileges, and tempted by their Promises, the *Catalans* have often receiv'd *French* Governors, who did always take care to leave that People a greater shew of Liberty than when they were under the *Spaniards*.

This

This the *French* did only to embroil *Spain* by their Assistance, and with a View, doubtless, to serve them as they serv'd all other People when their Work was done; But they never once deserted them, never once gave them up to the fury of their inveterate Enemies the *Castilians*, as our Noble *Managers* did; never treated with *Spain*, without not only insisting upon but obliging the *Spaniards* to leave the *Catalans* better than the *French* found them, as could be prov'd by many Historical Instances, if it was needful, and less known to all that know any thing of History. Did the poor *Catalans* when they threw themselves so unanimously and so generously into the Arms of the *English*, a Nation affecting an equal Love of Liberty with themselves, expect to get nothing by it, but what the *Castilians* did then let them precariously possess? Did they venture every thing that was dear to them, only to have *Charles* the III's Name put in the Place of *Charles* II? Ridiculous Absurdity! as much against Reason as Truth.

Staff's Historian, to excuse his deserting the *Catalans*, now bury'd under the Ruins of *Barcelona*, once the finest City of *Spain*, says, we left them in the *Emperor's Hands*, whose Subjects they chose to be. What a vile Insinuation is this! as if they forc'd themselves upon us, and
we

we had not sent an Army to support them in that Choice, and a Declaration to invite them to it, as full of the most flattering Advantages that their Revolt wou'd procure them as of assurances of Assistance, with Threats to invade and lay their Country waste, if they did not joyn us. We left them in the Emperor's Hands, true, but in whose Hands did we leave the Emperor? In those of France, who invaded him with an Army of 10000 Men, himself abandon'd as well as the Catalans; yet, says the Staff, *He should have taken Care of them*, and this he says with a barbarous Reflection on the Emperor's Weakness, and the Desolation of that Fair City, which has struggled more for Liberty than all the Nations of Europe have done since the Destruction of that of Rome. *He could not be said*, quoth the Staff of his Imperial Majesty, *not to be as able to defend them as they have been to defend themselves*. Was it not sufficient for him to give up so many thousand Brave Men to be massacred, and that Beauteous and Wealthy City to be laid in Ashes, must he make himself merry with their Ruins, and insult their Misery with his Nonsense? If Vengeance ever persud Innocent Blood, the Manes of the Brave Catalans will not fail of a Sacrifice.

He wou'd get off his distributing Money among the Scots Jacobites to buy Arms, by citing Presidents, that because
Mo-

Money had been given them before to bring them into Temper upon the *Union*, when we were engag'd in a *War*, therefore 'twas as prudent as safe to hearten them up when we were at *Peace*, and apprehensive of nothing but an Invasion from the Pretender, in whose Interests the *Staff* acknowledges those *Scots Men* were. But what signifies his giving Money to the poor Highlanders, to his cherishing and trusting the most profess'd Jacobites in *Scotland*, the sending for them to *London*, and giving them Pensions and Employments?

There is hardly one of his last sixteen *P—rs* but is mention'd in the *Scots Memoirs* as a Friend to the Pretender, and many of them the most active and busy in his intended Invasion. Was not *Lock—t*, who is said to have collected those *Memoirs*, one of those that most industriously fish'd for faults in the Old Ministry, as *Commissioner of Accounts*? Was not he the most Zealous of all those malicious *Informers*, from whom, at the expence of some Thousands of Pounds, we had yearly a spiteful, groundless, and idle Representation? This *Lock—t*, whose Children, doubtless, imitating their Father's Example, us'd commonly to tell their Play-fellows in *Soho*, *Their King was in France*.

E

What

What a Stir was there made, what *Advertisements*, and what *suborning of Evidence* when the Lord *Mohan* kill'd Duke *Hamilton* in a Duel? The above-mention'd *Memoirs* let us into the Reason: This Man, who was to fight his way thro' *England* to meet the Chevalier of *St. George* in *Scotland*, who was as well known to be in his Interests as much as his Grace the Duke of *Argyle* was known to be in those of his Country, was not only made Master of the Ordnance, and trusted with the Lieutenancy of a County or Two, but Ambassador to *France*, to the very Court that had bred up and supported his Pretender.

The *Staff* must know us to be in very great Security, when he suffer'd the *Scotts Clans* to grow so Insolent as to threaten to take French Money if he did not give 'em *English*, and yet did he put their Chiefs in Places of the greatest Trust. One of them the E. of D——d having the Guard of Her Majesty's Person. However, says *Staff*, the *Highland Money* was acknowledg'd to be well employ'd by a Majority; upon which I cannot but remember what was said by one of his Party, when the scandalous Vote concerning the *Two and Half per Cent.* pass'd. A Member of the House of Commons saying to another, who had voted with the Majority, You might as well have carry'd the Pretender. The Major-

Majority Man reply'd, By G—d so we shou'd.

By this *Majority*, so jumbled up of *Dozens* and *Sixteens*, the *Staff* says the very *Attacks* made upon the *Prime Minister* turn'd all into *Victories*.

I doubt not he remembers with Terror how he has been extricated by a Majority of Two and Three more than once, and has often meditated the fatal Consequences of losing it but by a Vote. To which pleasant Contemplation I leave him.

All this while has *Staff* been telling us fine Stories of his *Triumphs* at Home, without mentioning one Word of his *Victory* Abroad, in confounding the Confederacy; not a Syllable of the *Peace* is in his whole History. That is a String he dar'd not touch, the very sound of it must go the Soul of him, when he considers what a War we were in, and what a Peace he made.

If I were to draw the Preamble of a Charge against the Managers of that blessed Business I would do it in the Queen's Words to the Parliament in October, 1705. when *Staff* was in the Ministry.

These two or three following Paragraphs will serve instead of a thousand Arguments.

" Nothing can be more evident, than
 " that if the *French* King continues Ma-
 " ster of the *Spanish* Monarchy, the Ba-
 " lance of Power in *Europe* is utterly
 " destroy'd, and he will be able in a
 " short time to engross the Trade and the
 " Wealth of the World.

" No good *English* Man could at any
 " time be content to sit still and ac-
 " quiesce in such a Prospect. And at this
 " time we have grounds to hope, that,
 " by the Blessing of God upon our Arms,
 " and those of our Allies, a good Foun-
 " dation is laid for restoring the Mo-
 " narchy of *Spain* to the House of *Au-*
 " *stria*, the Consequences of which will
 " not only be Safe and Advantageous, but
 " Glorious for *England*.

" I may add, we have learn'd by our
 " own Experience, that no Peace with
 " *France* will last longer than the first
 " Opportunity of their dividing the Allies,
 " and of attacking some of them with Ad-
 " vantage.

All that I shall say to the Peace, of
 which *Staff* says not a Word, is, That
 notwithstanding Her Majesty's Arms
 were carrying Terror and Conquest into
 the Bowels of *France*; notwithstanding
 Her Majesty declar'd, that the Monarchy
 of

of *Spain* ought, for our Safety, Advantage and Glory, to be restor'd to the House of *Austria*; notwithstanding he had heard from the Throne, that no Peace with *France* would be lasting till her Exorbitant Power was reduc'd; yet did he, and his *Second*s, contrary to the Sense of the Confederates, and good *Britons*, make a Peace, by which *Spain* was given to the House of *Bourbon*, and an Opportunity given to *France* not only to attack, but ruin our Allies. That's all I shall say and desire that the Secret Historian would extricate his Master's Head out of that Exigency.

As for the Pretence of the Church's Danger, to remove the best Ministry that Prince ever had, and huddle up a *Secret Treaty* to save those that made it; I have shewn, that the *Staff* and his Party, made a *Base*, a *Jest* of it, as he confesses himself; but to convince the misguided *Zealots*, I must remember them of what the Queen said her self on that Subject too.

" I must be so plain as to tell you,
 " *says Her Majesty in the same Speech*,
 " the best Proofs we can all give at present of our Zeal for the Preservation
 " of the Church, will be to joyn heartily in prosecuting the War against an
 " Enemy who is certainly engag'd to
 " extirpate our Religion, as well as
 " as

“ as to reduce this Kingdom to Sla-
 “ very.

But yet did the *Staff*, his *Seconds*, and his *Party*, shew their Zeal for the Church, by putting an End to that necessary War, and making Peace with an Enemy who the Queen said, *Is certainly engag'd to extirpate our Religion as well as to reduce this Kingdom to Slavery.*

All the first part of *Staff's* History is ingeniously contriv'd, to demonstrate that he never intended to change Measures, and was a most Zealous Friend to the *Protestant Succession*, and all the latter Part is as judiciously fram'd to shew, that the Hands he wrought with were, *pag. 21.*

“ *Jacobites* in their Principles, who
 “ went with him, in hopes of finding an
 “ opportunity out of the General Di-
 “ stractions, to produce something to the
 “ Advantage of that Party they adher'd
 “ to, and promote the Interest of the
 “ *Pretender.*

These were his *Tools*, these were the Men that were to secure the *Succession* of the Crown to the *Illustrious House of Hannover*; yet when any good *Briton* told the Publick as much, and every good *Briton* that could see at all, saw all this as well as *Staff* himself, how did the *Examiner* cry

cry out *Sedition*? What a Noise was made of *Disaffection* to the Government, and branding the Ministry by *Aldworth*, *Lock*—r, and their *Jacobite* Zanies by *C—p—n*, *W—m*, and the *October* Members in Parliament? Now *Staff* pleads guilty to this Part of the Indictment, and owns it was all as true as Gospel.

What Pains were taken to amuse us, that we might not see the Precipice till we were fall'n into it? Some threaten'd, others laugh'd at us, and among the rest one of the *Twelve* kept an *Anabaptist* Butler, purely to turn our *Protestant Fears* into as much *ridicule* as his little Wit would let him.

This Fellow was bred up in the Family which had been *Whiggish* too, in the P—rs own, his Father and Grand-father's Time, and having more Honesty and a better Discernment than his *Master*, did really believe the *Pretender* was coming. The Reverend L—d had two other Servants, *Staunch Church Men*, and when ever Company was at Dinner, these three Fellows were to act his Lordship's Farce. First *Tom*, one of the *Staunch Men*, was ask'd, *when the Pretender would come*. This Footman was to joke and cry *on the 20th of February, my Lord*; at which his Lordship and the Company were to laugh, and the two Footmen to flee at the old Butler. Then his Lordship with a great deal

peal of humour turns to the other *Staunch* Footman, *Well, and what sayst thou, Dick, art not thou afraid of the Pretender.* This Fellow's Cue was to answer bluff, *Not I, my Lord, I fear none of their Pretenders.* His Lordship's part here was to turn to the Company with a Nod at the Fellow, as if there was something Shrewd in it, and not much in favour of the House of *Hanover*. Then my Lord was to crown all by looking about upon *Ebenezer* the Butler, and crying, *I'll warrant Ben thinks he'll be here by Christmas.* Upon which *Ben* was to take his *Decanto*, and filling his Bottle into it, reply with a *Groan*, *God help us — 'Tis not some Body's Fault if he is not — I see nothing but Popery and Slavery.* At this his Lordship, the two *Staunch* Footmen, and the whole Company were to give him a Horse Laugh, and the *Anabaptist* was to sneak off as if he was the only *Fool* of the Farce.

Thus did they sport with the Danger they themselves knew we werein, and by their own means, *Staff* confessing the Party he acted with did believe, *pag. 21. That the the design of altering the Succession was entertain'd by the Managers.*

I give the *Staff* many thanks for telling us what were the Projects of the *October Club*, the *Staunch Men*, that a Mark may be set upon 'em by many true *Church Men*, whom they have deceiv'd, tho' the greater Part cou'd never be impos'd upon by them.

them. He tells us, p. 22. 23. They were a Set of high, hot, out of Temper Politicians, who acted upon Principles of Absolute Government, and push'd hard to introduce the Tyrannical Part.

Staff, Who knows the True Tories the best of any Man in England, gives us in these few Words a Character of their Principles and Practices.

He insinuates, how much the Whiggs are oblig'd to him, that he did not do what the *October Club* would have had him, give them the *Coup de Grace*, that they might die at once.

There's no need of stretching the Sense of this to a Massacre, indeed the Staff and his Seconds had no need of that bloody way to do our Business. 'Twou'd have been as effectually done by bringing the Pretender in, and of that there's enough said already. But this one may venture to believe upon his Credit, that the *October Men* would be contented with nothing less than a *shorough Reformation*, by displacing every Whigg and Moderate Man in the Nation.

If any one continues to doubt whether the late Managers were for altering the Succession or not, let 'em read only the two Pages of Staff's Book, p. 28. 29. where the Turn, with respect to his late Ministry, begins; for having made a fine Speech for himself to those Men with whom he had been acting the Change of

the Administration, the Peace, the Twelve Lords, and the like, in favour of the Protestant Succession, he says, *this Discourse had no effect upon them*; that they afterwards refus'd to have any thing to do with him, and for this Reason does he call *H——r, B——k, A——y W——m, &c.* the *Faction*, at the same time his Tool the Examiner was paid by him, to give that odious Name to the *Hanover Party*. These, says *Staff*, speaking of the former, *above all the several Divisions, deserve the Name of the Faction*: And as he has Christen'd them, I doubt not they will be so denominat'd by and distinguish'd from all good *English Men* for the future.

I agree entirely with the *Staff* in his grateful Acknowledgments of the Favours he receiv'd from the Lady *Abigail*, whom he wrought with to get himself into Play. He says, *she was indeed the Female Buz which had for many Years past too much Influence in publick Management*: Too much with a Vengeance, but 'tis not always that such Usurpations come off with Impunity.

In all the latter Part of *Staff's* History, where he endeavours to throw the Blame and Odium of the late Management in favour of the Pretender, on those of his Fellow Managers, whom excluding his dear self, he calls the *Faction*, we have just as much of the Truth, as he hop'd would extenuate the Guilt of his herding with them.

But

But whether his concerting Measures with them for four Years together, and doing so many things daily, as so weakened the Interest of the Protestant Succession, as to bring it into utmost Peril, will be attested for by his declaring his Zeal for it, when he had no Power left to serve it, is a Question I shall not debate, nor trouble my self with the *Catastrophe* of his Ministry, which happen'd contrary to all good Men's Expectations, to be fatal to himself only.

That his Faction, as he says, sacrific'd the Honour, Dignity and Reputation of the Queen, and that they hastned her Death, I do not doubt; but whether there was any other Intention after he was remov'd than to turn out Twenty seven Collonels of the Guards, to disband all the Forces, and raise Twenty new Regiments to be Officer'd as the *Jacobites* should think fit, to conclude a Treaty with France, Spain and Sicily, not at all in Favour of the Protestant Succession, and that being done, to give the *Coup de Grace* to all true Britons, without ever restoring him to his Staff again, as he pretends, is what I cannot determine, unless I judge of it by the excellent Dialogue of his Purse and his Bishop, after they had been in Council with his second Gambol, Wildfire, &c. Where, says Staff, p. 71. desperate Measures were propos'd by their chief Leader, and there was a full Consent of Treason against both Queen and Country.

try, the Cabal being thus piously entertain'd
by their Mace and their Mitre.

*The Blast of Hell, and the Rage of a million
of Devils be on this cursed Staff, said he,
flinging his Purse on the Ground, it is he
that has ruin'd us, and broke all our Measures.
Give away the Staff, say the Bis—, by Lu-
cifer I could not have believ'd she durst have
done it ! What can we do without it ? We have
but one way left ; France and the Lawful
Hair ; It must and shall be done, by G—d.*

What a High Post and Fine Coach was
this Bis— to have had, and how well did
his Love of his Queen and Country, and
his Piety deserve it ? Didst thou not, O
Staff, contribute to the making of him a
Bis—, and how canst thou then answer
it to thy Country and thy Conscience ?

F I N I S.

